

Attorney Docket No.: SIT-0107  
Inventors: Becker et al.  
Serial No.: 09/876,238  
Filing Date: June 7, 2001  
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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-12 (canceled).

Claim 13 (original): A light source comprising:

a sealed, light-transmissive tube containing gases or gas mixtures at a high pressure;

an array of microhollow cathode discharges comprising multiple microhollow cathode discharges, wherein each microhollow cathode discharge comprises a first electrode mounted within said light-transmissive tube, said first electrode consisting of a conductor having a single hole or a plurality of holes therein, each of said holes having an arbitrary shape and an area in the range from 0.001 mm<sup>2</sup> to 1 mm<sup>2</sup>;

an anode comprising a distributed resistive ballast comprising a semi-insulating material mounted within said light-transmissive tube and spaced apart from the adjoining first electrode of the microhollow cathode discharge array by an

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insulator which has a hole or holes similar to the hole(s) in the first electrode; and

electrical means for coupling electrical energy to said first and second electrodes for producing discharges in each of the holes in said first electrode; and

an insulating spacer.

Claim 14 (original): The light source of claim 13 wherein the semi-insulating material is silicon.